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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/544,153

08/01/2005

Woo Chan Sohng

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IPLA P.A.

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EXAMINER

EDWARDS JR, TIMOTHY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/02/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/544,153

Applicant(s)

SOHNG, WOO CHAN

Examiner

Timothy Edwards, Jr.

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3,5-12,14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Thomason et al '686.

Considering claim 1, Thomason discloses a data input device comprising a) a keypad having five buttons (see paragraph 0022 and fig 1); b) means for sequentially receiving signals input by the operating the buttons on a keypad and creating the signals as the button input signal sequence (see paragraph 0049); c) means for storing an alphabet list having alphabet sequences consisting of sequential sequence of button input signals and English alphabet representation data, wherein on alphabet representation is associated with at least one alphabet sequence (see paragraphs 0046 and 0053); d) an alphabet search and display means (see paragraphs 0053-0056); e) using the button input signal sequence whenever one button is selected (see paragraph 0019).

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Considering claims 2,3 Thomason discloses the limitations of these claims (see paragraphs 0026 and 0053).

Considering claim 5, Thomason discloses the limitation of this claim (see paragraph 0024).

Considering claim 6, Thomason discloses the limitation of this claim (see fig 5a).

Considering claim 7, Thomason discloses the limitations of this claim (see paragraphs 0022, 0023, 0026, 0027, 0046, 0049 and 0053-0056).

Considering claims 8,12 the limitation of these claims are interpreted and rejected as stated in claim 2.

Considering claims 9,11 the limitation of these claims are interpreted and rejected as stated in claim 3.

Considering claim 10, a) a first wait step of waiting a button input signal (see paragraph 0052); b) adding the received button input signal and creating a button (see paragraph 0053); c) searching the alphabet list using the button input signal sequence (see paragraph 0046); d) a preliminary alphabet extraction step of displaying an representation associated with an alphabet sequence when there is the alphabet

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sequence corresponding to the button input signal sequence (see paragraphs 0054, 0056 and 0060); e) an alphabet sequence having a series of button input signals corresponding to the button input signal sequence, if there is no alphabet sequence corresponding to the button input signal sequence in the search step, returning to the beginning of the alphabet input sequence (see paragraphs 0056 and 0057); f) an incorrect input correction step (see paragraph 0056); g) determining alphabet extraction step, extracting and displaying the preliminary extracted alphabet representation (see paragraph 0055-0057).

Considering claim 14 the limitation of this claim is interpreted and rejected as stated in claim 7.

Considering claim 15 the limitation of this claim is interpreted and rejected as stated in claim 5.

Considering claim 16 the limitation of this claim is interpreted and rejected as stated in claim 6.

Considering claim 17, Thomason discloses the limitation of this claim (see paragraph 0046).

Considering claim 18, Thomason discloses the limitation of this claim (see paragraph 0023).

Considering claim 19, Thomason discloses the limitation of this claim (see paragraph 0040).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomason et al '686.

Considering claim 13, Thomason does not specifically recite an incorrect input is indicated by a generated sound. Thomason discloses the displaying of an error message when an input character cannot be matched (see paragraph 0056). One of ordinary skill in the art readily recognizes the use of an audio output is an alternative method of indicating an error or an incorrect input. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the error indication means of Thomason and use any alternative method (such as an LED, sound, blinking display).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Thomason '686 does not teach or suggest the central button is allocated functions of start and release of the English alphabet input mode, and switching between the English small and capital alphabet input modes.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Donahey '557 and Schauer '592 disclose method of data entry by tracing the alphabet on a keypad. To '415 teaches use of a five key keypad for inputting alphabet on a reduced keypad device. However, the present application antedates the To '415 reference.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Timothy Edwards, Jr. at telephone number (571) 272-3067. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The examiner cannot be reached on Fridays.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman, can be reached at (571) 272-3059.

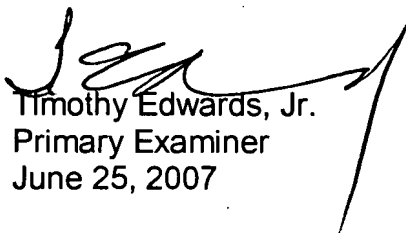
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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-4700, Mon-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Any response to this action should be fax to:

(571) 273-8300 (for formal communications intended for entry).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> or contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Timothy Edwards, Jr.
Primary Examiner
June 25, 2007